

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Canceled)

Claim 2. (Previously Amended) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 21, wherein the element A of the compound is Cu or Ag.

Claim 3. (Original) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 2, wherein the element A of the compound is Cu or Ag.

Claim 4. (Previously Amended) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 21, wherein the number a of the compound is $0.6 \leq a \leq 2$.

E1
Claim 5. (Previously Amended) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 21, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of CuS, Ag₂S, Cu₂S, AuS, and Au_{0.5}S.

Claims 6-18. (Withdrawn)

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) An energy storage device having a nonaqueous electrolytic solution and a compound of any one of the formulas (1) to (3):



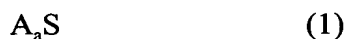
where A is Cu, Ag or Au; $0.4 \leq a \leq 5$; B and D are different from each other, and are each

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selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Au, Zn, Al, W and Li; $0.001 \leq b \leq 0.999$; $0 < y < 2$; E, G and J are different from each other, and are each selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Au, Zn, Al, W, Li and Mg; M is Ca, Sr, Na, K, Rb, O, F, Cl, Br or I; $0.001 < e < 0.999$; $0.001 < g < 0.999$; $0 \leq m \leq 2$; and $0 < z < 2(1+m)$, as an active material of a negative electrode which releases electrons as the energy storage device is discharged, in an amount of 75% to 99.9% by weight of the composition of the negative electrode.

Claim 20. (Withdrawn)

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) A nonaqueous secondary battery, which comprises:
a negative electrode whose active material comprises a compound of formula (1):



wherein A is Cu, Ag or Au, and $0.4 \leq a \leq 5$, in an amount of 75% to 99.9% by weight of the composition of the negative electrode which releases electrons as the battery is discharged, and a nonaqueous electrolytic solution as an electrolyte.

Claim 22. (Previously Added) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 21, wherein the non-aqueous electrolytic solution contains an organic solvent selected from the group consisting of esters, ethers, 3-substituted-2-oxazolidinones, sulfolane, methylsulfolane, acetonitrile and propionitrile.

Claim 23. (Previously Added) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 5, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of Ag_2S , Cu_2S , AuS and $Au_{0.5}S$.

Claim 24. (Previously Added) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 5, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of AuS and $Au_{0.5}S$.

Claim 25. (Previously Added) The non-aqueous secondary battery of Claim 21, wherein

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the active material of the negative electrode is operable in the range of 0 V to 1.5 V relative to the oxidation-reduction potential of lithium.

E2

Claim 26. (New) An energy storage device having a nonaqueous electrolytic solution and a compound of formula (1):



wherein A is Cu, Ag or Au and $0.4 \leq a \leq 5$, as an active material of a negative electrode which is operable in the range of 0 V to 1.5 V relative to the oxidation-reduction potential of lithium, in an amount of 75% to 99.9% by weight of the composition of the negative electrode.

Claim 27. (New) A nonaqueous secondary battery, which comprises:

a negative electrode whose active material comprises a compound of formula (1):



wherein A is Cu, Ag or Au, and $0.4 \leq a \leq 5$, in an amount of 75% to 99.9% by weight of the composition of the negative electrode which is operable in the range of 0 V to 1.5 V relative to the oxidation-reduction potential of lithium, and a nonaqueous electrolytic solution as an electrolyte.
